

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

KELSEY SMITH ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2016

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4889. While I agree with the underlying goal of this bill, in its current form it does not provide enough privacy protections. The ability to quickly locate potential victims in an emergency is very important but we should also eliminate the potential for abuse. I was disappointed that Congressional Republicans refused to accept common sense proposals that would have allowed us to obtain the benefit of the proposal without opening the door to abuse or violations of Constitutional rights. I hope in the coming months we can pass the bill with adequate provisions.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BIRMINGHAM CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM'S CLASS OF 2016 VALEDICTORIANS

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 27, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate Birmingham City School System's Class of 2016 Valedictorians—all of whom are female. As the headline reads in the local paper, "Talk about major girl power." At last count, these young ladies have received more than "\$2.85 million in scholarship offers for 2016." The Birmingham City School System also had two Gates Millennium Scholars this year including Ramsay High School's Valedictorian, Maya Quinn.

The Class of 2016 Valedictorians includes: Parker High School's Alejandrina Bravo; Woodlawn High School's Michelle Thomas; Huffman High School's Kierra Hutchins; Jackson-Olin High School's Alana Bennett; Ramsay High School's Maya Quinn; and Carver High School's Jamerial Gardner and Ariana Robinson. Carver High School was unique in that they had two students tie for valedictorian this year.

Mr. Speaker, while most of the communities in my district are greatly underserved, we continuously see what is possible from our citizens with a little bit of resources and whole bunch of hard work.

We know that when women succeed, America succeeds. And these young women are on the path to bright futures, and to giving back in hopefully meaningful ways to our communities, and should be commended for their outstanding achievements. I am sure they will look back proudly on this accomplishment as they blaze their respective paths in life.

Mr. Speaker, I want my colleagues to join me in congratulating the outstanding women

who serve as 2016 Valedictorians in the Birmingham City School System. Girl Power!

IN HONOR OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WYOMING CONFERENCE OF BUILDING OFFICIALS

HON. CYNTHIA M. LUMMIS

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 27, 2016

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Wyoming Conference of Building Officials, to recognize the leadership of the Wyoming Chapter of the International Code Council (ICC) that develops and publishes the model building, safety and energy efficiency model codes used in my home state of Wyoming, and each of the other 49 states.

Confidence in building safety is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, laborers and others in the construction industry who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of the buildings in which we live and work.

Thirty-one people from eighteen cities across the state of Wyoming attended the very first meeting of the newly formed Wyoming Association of Building Officials on January 23, 1976 in Gillette, Wyoming. The following inaugural officers were elected at that first meeting in Gillette: President Ralph Rock, Building Inspector, Gillette, WY; Vice President Joe Keefer, Building Inspector, Douglas, WY; Secretary-Treasurer Thomas W. Chambers, Cody, WY; Director R.G. Patton, Building Inspector, Cody, WY; and J.J. Ireland, Building Inspector, Cheyenne, WY.

Over the past forty years the Wyoming Conference of Building Officials has provided continuing education for design professionals, fire service and the public. It has provided more than \$18,000 in scholarships to Wyoming residents to attend the International Code Council's Annual Conference to learn more on the latest building standards and codes. And, it has published numerous articles in the Building Safety Journal.

The current Board of the Wyoming Conference of Building officials—President Keith Bowar of Campbell County, WY; Vice President Lyle Murdock of Wright, WY; Treasurer Billy Nunn of Jackson, WY; Director Matt Allred of Guernsey, WY; Director Ken Rogers of Gillette, WY; and Past President Bruce Wilson of Cheyenne, WY, currently represent 90 members across 48 jurisdictions.

I would like to thank the thousands of men and women who work every day to make sure our country's buildings comply with the most updated building and fire safety codes. And I would like to especially thank those hard working members of the Wyoming Conference of Building Officials, celebrating their 40th anni-

versary of service to the citizens of the great state of Wyoming.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 27, 2016

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last night, as I celebrated the passage of Representative SEAN PATRICK MALONEY's amendment to prohibit the federal government from doing business with contractors who discriminate against LGBT individuals, I was dismayed to realize that, as the vote was closing, I had failed to press the button to vote to support the amendment, which would have made the margin of victory even larger. I voted for the amendment last week, and I continue to strongly support efforts to ensure equality for the LGBT community. The anti-LGBT amendments offered to the same bill, which I staunchly oppose, demonstrate the all too real, continued discrimination that the LGBT community faces, even after historic achievement of marriage equality and the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE LIFE OF SARID CHAIM SHAHDAIAH AND QUINCY GEMAL WILLIAMS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 27, 2016

"What is a fear of living? It's being pre-eminently afraid of dying. It is not doing what you came here to do, out of timidity and spinelessness. The antidote is to take full responsibility for yourself—for the time you take up and the space you occupy. If you don't know what you're here to do, then just do some good."—Maya Angelou

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance and recognition of the life of Sarid Chaim Shahdaiah, and Quincy Gemal Williams two very accomplished young men who tragically lost their lives in a car accident on December 3, 2014.

Many parents, teachers, neighbors and young people hope to find the kindness and dedication that these two young men exhibited regularly as sons, students, friends and incredibly well-rounded, commendable young men.

The accomplishment these young men earned far exceed the highest expectations of any proud parent or community member in awe of exceptional young leaders in today's America.

I understand as well, that in recognition and honor of his pursuit of excellence, several highly esteemed universities expressed interest in Mr. Shahdaiah, hoping that he would join their respected student bodies.

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